

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M #35-30

1608774527

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fort Sumner-Site

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Sangamore & Westpath Roads

CITY, TOWN

Sumner (Glen Echo)

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☒ STRUCTURE
☒ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☒ TRANSPORTATION
☒ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

(area developed)

NAME

(now Sumner Subdivision)

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:35-30

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Nothing visible remains of the Fort. Overgrown earthworks were visible until the area was developed during the early 1960's. The lands occupy high bluffs overlooking the Potomac River, C & O Canal and the Virginia shore. A metal marker with a brief historical sketch and map has been placed at the site. A view of the river from the cleared hilltop was taken during the Civil War by Matthew Brady (In National Archives.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 00-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was the most extensive Mont. Co. complex of Civil War fortifications designed for the defense of the Nation's Capital.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Cohen, Roger, Jr. "The Defenses of Washington" MONT. CO. STORY, Mont. Co. Hist. Soc. (Feb., 1961) (with map).
- 2) "Defending Washington During the Civil War", RECORDS OF THE COLUMBIA HIST. SOC., (1971-72).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

9/11/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY STORY

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Vol. IV

February, 1961

No. 2

THE CIVIL WAR IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

- I. The Defenses of Washington during the Civil War
by Roger S. Cohen, Jr.
 - II. Reminiscences of the Civil War
by Mollie Hays Jones
-

THE DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON

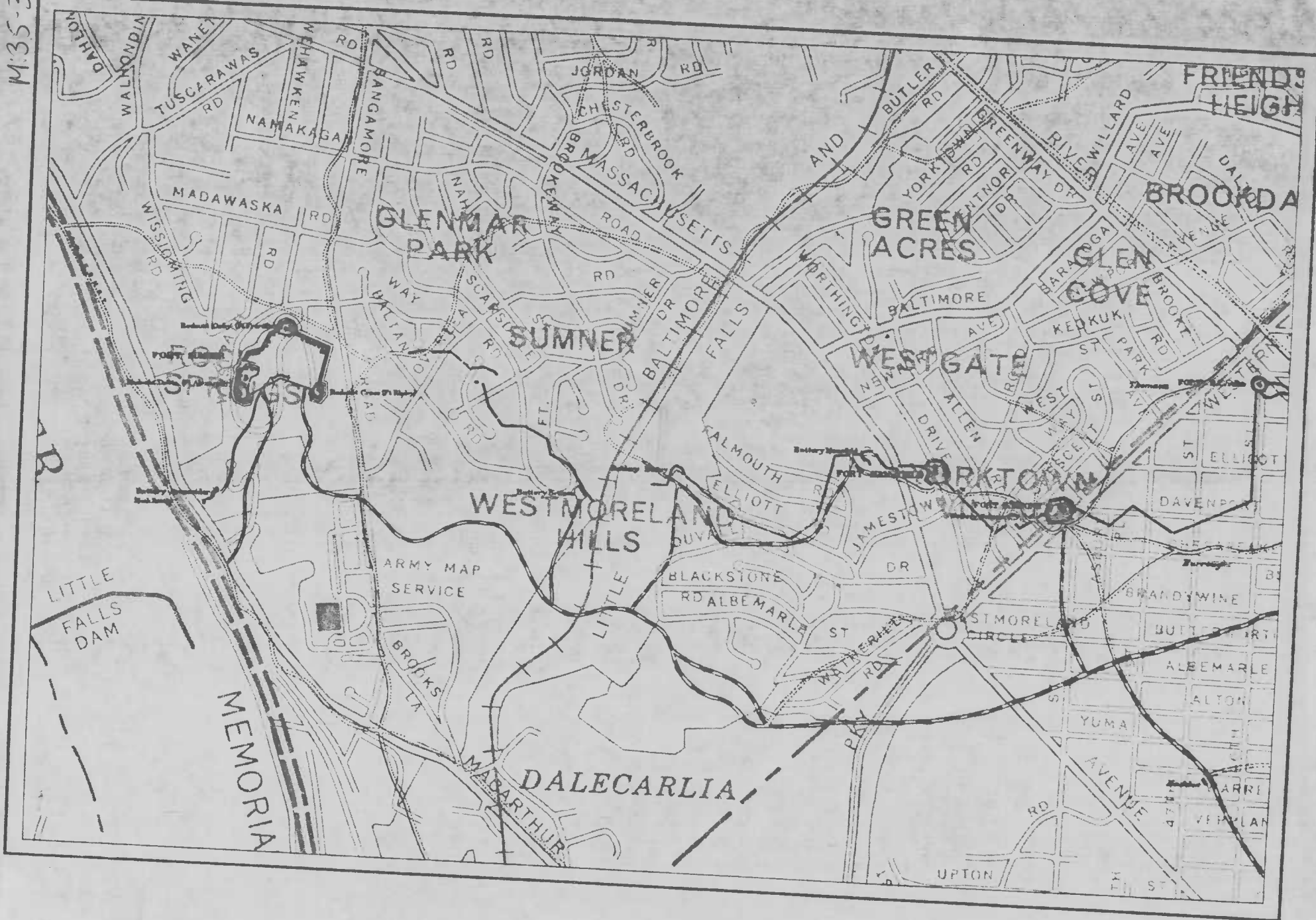
Located in Montgomery County During the Civil War
by Roger S. Cohen, Jr.

Among the casualties of the March of Progress have been the defenses of Washington constructed during the Civil War. Except in a few cases, almost all of the 161 forts and batteries as well as 20 miles of rifle trenches have been erased by the expansion of the Washington Metropolitan Area. Only a small portion of them were located in Montgomery County and those only because the topography of the western portion of the District of Columbia made it necessary. The accompanying map shows the location of these defensive works overlaid on a modern map of the area.

The first defenses of Washington were built as the result of a resolution of the U. S. House of Representatives on July 8, 1861. This resolution directed the War Department to survey and erect forts at important points on the approaches to Washington on both sides of the Potomac River. The Corps of Engineers of the U. S. Army had already surveyed in May and June, 1861; therefore, work was started immediately. (1)

In July, 1861, three forts were built in Montgomery County, namely Forts Ripley, Alexander and Franklin. They were located northwest of the Maryland approach to Chain Bridge in order to protect both the bridge and the Receiving Reservoir of the Washington water system. (1) (See accompanying map)

M.35-30



480 000 FEET
(VA.)

SENECA 15 MI.
↑

GLEN ECHO 0.9 MI.
↑

57°30"

4314

GREAT FALLS 9 MI.
↑

GLEN ECHO 1.5 MI.
↑

4313

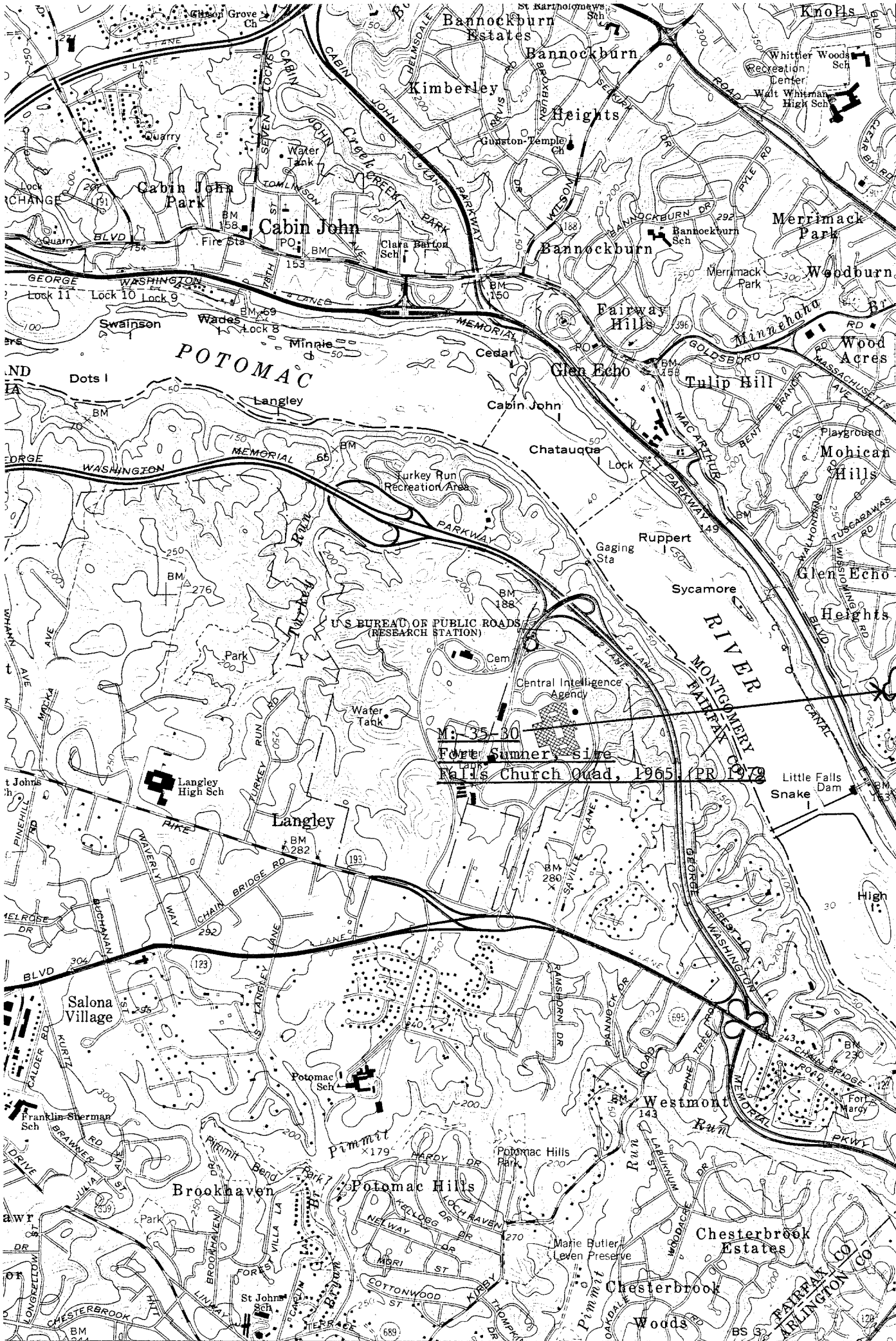
FAIRFAX 14 MI.
↑

6 MI. TO INTERSTATE 495
↑

5561.1 NW
(FALLS CHURCH)

4310





4317 M: 35-30

480 000 FEET
(VA.)

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4315

4314

57'30"

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FORT SUMNER

FORTS ALEXANDER, RIPLEY AND FRANKLIN, BUILT TO PROTECT THE WASHINGTON WATER SYSTEM IN 1861 WERE CONNECTED BY EARTHWORKS IN 1863 AND RENAMED FT. SUMNER TO HONOR MAJ. GEN. EDWIN V. SUMNER, A HERO OF ANTIETAM. THE FORT'S 28 POUND CANNON PROVIDED A FORMIDABLE BULWARK AGAINST RAIDING CONFEDERATES. NOTHING REMAINS OF THE FORT BUT AN OUTLINE OF IT APPEARS ON THE REVERSE.

ERECTED 1963 BY THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND
MARYLAND CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

#35-30

NAME FT. SUMNER

LOCATION SANGAMORE + WESTPATH

FACADE SUMNER, MD. (QUEEN ECHO)

PHOTO TAKEN 9/11/74

M. DEXTER